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Facsimile

To	Company	Fax Number	Phone Number
Commissioner for Patents - ATTN: Examiner Kevin L. Lee	USPTO	(703) 872-9306	

Date	Client/Matter Number
April 15, 2005	209139-00002
From	Attorney Number
John S. Paniaguas	32347
Phone	Fax
312.902.5312	312.577.4532

*Total number of pages, including cover letter: pages
If you do not receive all of the pages, please call: 312.902.5312*

18 pp.

Comments

RE: Patent Application No.: 10/631,372
Filing Date: July 31, 2003
Inventor: Peter Berkman
Title: Frost Free Valve Assembly System and Method
Confirmation No.: 2140

Please file the attached:
Transmittal Form (1p.)
Fee Transmittal (1p.)
Information Disclosure Statement (3 pp.)
PTO/SB/08a (1 p.)
PTO/SB/08b (1 p.)
Two References (10 pp.)

Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 15, 2005.

Janelle A. Reitz

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Doc #:CHW1 (209139-00002) 50272249v1.04/15/2005/Time:15:53

Urgent or Personal Matter

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete the form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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* Received: 17 pages, From 1/35 - 17/35.

* U.S. patent. pages 8/35 - 14/35 (recycle). CH

PTO/SB/17 (12-04-02)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. GMB 0251-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Effective on 12/08/2004.
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4218).

FEE TRANSMITTAL For FY 2005

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)
\$180.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/631,372
Filing Date	July 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	Peter Berkman
Examiner Name	Kevin L. Lee
Art Unit	3753
Attorney Docket No.	209139-00002

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit Card Money Order None Other (please identify): _____

Deposit Account Deposit Account Number 50-1214 Deposit Account Name Katten Muchin

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to. (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
 Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 Credit any overpayments

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

Application Type	FILING FEES		SEARCH FEES		EXAMINATION FEES	
	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee (\$)
Utility	300	150	500	250	200	100
Design	200	100	100	50	130	65
Plant	200	100	300	150	160	80
Reissue	300	150	500	250	600	300
Provisional	200	100	0	0	0	0

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

Fee Description

Each claim over 20 (including Reissues)

Small Entity Fee (\$)

Fee (\$)

50 25

Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues)

200 100

Multiple dependent claims

360 180

Total Claims Extra Claims Fee (\$)

Multiple Dependent Claims

Fee (\$)

Fee Paid (\$)

- 20 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

Indep. Claims Extra Claims Fee (\$)

Fee (\$)

Fee Paid (\$)

- 3 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(c)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets Extra Sheets Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof Fee (\$)

Fee (\$)

Fee Paid (\$)

- 100 = _____ / 50 = _____ (round up to a whole number) x _____ = _____

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Fees Paid (\$)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Information Disclosure Statement

\$180.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature	<i>John S. Pantagras</i>	Registration No. 31,051 (Attorney/Agent)	Telephone (312) 902-5200
Name (Print/Type)	John S. Pantagras	Date April 15, 2005	

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/631,372
Confirmation No.: 2140
Filing Date: July 31, 2003
Inventor(s): Paul Berkman, et al.
Group Art Unit: 3753
Examiner Name: Kevin L. Lee
Attorney Docket No.: 209139-00002
Title: Frost Free Valve Assembly System and Method

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APR 15 2005

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This document is being filed pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

I. TIME OF FILING

- This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) as it is believed to be filed:
- within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
 within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;
 before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or
 before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

Application No. 10/631,372
Page 2 of 3

____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) as it is believed to be filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. This Statement is accompanied by one of:

- ____ the following statements; or
- ____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- ____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

____ The fee set forth in § 1.17(p). Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is attached.

OR

____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) as it is believed to be filed on or before the payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by one of the following statements and the fee set forth in § 1.17(p). Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is attached.

- ____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- ____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or Form PTO/SB/08B be considered and made of record.

OR

It is requested that this Statement and enclosures be placed in the file. It is understood that the cited references will not be considered by the Office.

Application No. 10/631,372
Page 3 of 3

II. FOREIGN PATENT OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS (if applicable)

- One or more of the items of information contained in the information disclosure statement were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.
- A copy of the search report is attached.

III. COPIES OF CITED REFERENCES

- Because this application was filed prior to June 30, 2003, copies of the document(s) listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are attached.

OR

- Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of non-U.S. patent citations as listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are attached.

AND (if applicable)

- All cited U.S. pending (non-published) applications listed on Form PTO/SB/08A are stored in the USPTO's IFW system. Copies are therefore not provided.

OR

- One or more of the cited U.S. pending (non-published) applications (filed prior to June 30, 2003) as listed on Form PTO/SB/08A has not been stored in the USPTO's IFW system. Copies for the unstored applications are provided herewith.

IV. REMARKS

The above constitutes information that an Examiner may find material to the examination of the subject application; however, it does not negate the patentability of the subject invention. Furthermore, it is not intended that submission of this information be taken as a representation that a search has been made or that no information which is more material exists.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment with respect to this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-1214. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Date: April 15, 2005

By: John S. Paniagtas
John S. Paniagtas
Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31,051

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Supplement for form 1449 PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

《中華人民共和國農業法》

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/631,372
Filing Date	July 31, 2003
First Named Inventor	Peter Berkman
Art Unit	3753
Examiner Name	Kevin L. Lee
Attorney Docket Number	209139-00002

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of

Attorney Docket Number 209139-00002

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Name(s) ¹	Case No. ²	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS			
		Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Type Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear

**Examiner
Signature**

Dan
Carter

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered. Whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 608. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique opinion designation number (optional). ²See Kinda Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 9104. ³Entry Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO		Complete & Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	10/631,372
(Use as many sheets as necessary)		Filing Date	July 31, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Peter Berkman
		Art Unit	3753
		Examiner Name	Kevin L. Lee
Sheet	of	Attorney Docket Number	
		209139-00002	

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial & reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 608. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.88. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gaining, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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